



MEMORIAL SERVICE
IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF

Donald Leslie Vinge

JUNE 14, 1933 – DECEMBER 8, 2025

APRIL 18, 2026 – 2PM

HOSANNA LUTHERAN CHURCH

OFFICIATING PASTOR: REV. DR. JAMES HENDRICKSEN

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Matthew 11:28-30; Exodus 19:4-5)

P: And Jesus said, “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

C: **Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart,**

P: And you will find rest for your souls.

C: **For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”**

P: You have heard Jesus’ words, “Come to me.” Do not bear your sorrow alone. Our Lord, Jesus Christ, is willing to bear your burdens with you. The Comforter, the Holy Spirit, can raise you above pain and grief of this world. God reminds us, “I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples.”

GREETING: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM:

All who have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. In his baptism, Don was clothed with Christ. In the day of Christ’s coming, he shall be clothed in glory.

HYMN: ELW 880 – O God Beyond All Praising

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Eternal God and Father, We praise you that you have made people to share life together and to reflect your glory in the world. We thank you now for Donald Leslie Vinge. For all that we saw of your goodness and love in his life. And for all that he means to each one of us. As we journey towards death may we do so in the company of Jesus, who came to share our life that we may share the life of eternity. To him be glory with you and the Holy Spirit For ever and ever. Amen.

MEMORIES OF DON

FIRST LESSON: Job 38:4-7

Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:25-34

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

“So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

HOMILY

CHOIR: A Mighty Fortress

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**ALL: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS:

Let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am the resurrection and the life."

Jesus, fullness of compassion, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Don, and dry the tears of those who weep.

In your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Jesus, man of sorrows, you wept at the grave of Lazarus your friend; comfort us who mourn.

In your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Jesus, firstborn of the new creation, you raised the dead; give to our brother Don life eternal.

In your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Jesus, wellspring of life, you washed our brother Don in baptism and anointed him with the Holy Spirit; give him communion with all your saints. In your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Jesus, bread of life, you nourished Don at your table in earth; welcome him at your table in the realm of heaven. In your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Jesus, bright morning star, comfort us in our sorrows at the death of Don, let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope. In your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

God of grace, we give you thanks because by his death
Our Saviour Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and
By his resurrection opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also,
And that neither death nor life,
Nor things present nor things to come
Shall be able to separate us from your love
Which is in Christ Jesus our Lord,
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins**

**As we forgive those who sin
against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
And the glory are yours
Now and forever. Amen.**

COMMENDATION: Let us commend our brother Don Vinge to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Don Vinge. Acknowledge we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming, and a saint of your making. Receive him into the strong arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

PRAYER:

P: Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

COMMITTAL:

P: In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to almighty God our brother Don, and we commit his ashes to their final resting place.

The Lord bless him and keep him.

The Lord's face shine on him with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon him with favor and give him peace.

P: Rest eternal grant him, O Lord;

C: and let light perpetual shine upon him.

BLESSING:

Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

P: Let us go forth in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN: ELW 536 – God Be With You Til We Meet Again

POSTLUDE

Donald Leslie Vinge

JUNE 14, 1933 – DECEMBER 8, 2025

A lover of life. A prairie boy in the big world. A gentle and generous soul. A visionary educator. An inspiring leader. An optimist and a believer. A devoted son, husband, father, grandfather and friend. A legend. Donald Leslie Vinge passed away peacefully on December 8, 2025, in Edmonton at the age of 92.

From his home village of Torquay to the great cities of the world, Don Vinge's gumption and joie-de-vivre were well known and contagious. He embraced the world with great wonder, and encouraged those around him to do the same. Don was the youngest of seven children born to Peder and Dorma Vinge, and early memories of family, school, church, work, the baseball diamond and the ice rink were very important to him. As a young man, he left his mark at Luther College and the University of Saskatchewan. The long career in educational leadership that followed was defined by forty years in Europe, first with the Department of National Defence and later in international schools, as well as innovative work with Edmonton Public School Board. Don's stomping grounds included Baden-Baden, Brunssum, Doenrade, Dresden, Edmonton, Eugene, Frankfurt, Lahr, London, Munich, Outlook, Regensburg, Regina, Saskatoon, Soest, Weimar, and many dots in between. Wherever he was he stood on firm ground, likely with a Michelin guide and a newspaper, untroubled and unapologetically himself. He was a thinker and a doer, a connector of ideas and people, and he impacted thousands of students and educators with his idealism, kindness, wisdom and integrity. Don was a connoisseur of current affairs, art, culture, music, sports, food, wine and people. He enjoyed finding shared interests, and was known to pluck a relevant article out of a giant stack of papers mid-conversation. He cared deeply for all his family and friends around the world, and cherished three decades of marriage with the love of his life. Don joins Maureen as they watch over their son Peder, daughter-in-law Nallely, grandchildren Maia and Lennox, nieces and nephews, and their many loved ones. He will be dearly missed.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Canadian Lutheran World Relief.



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“It’ll all work out... for you... and for all of us.” - DLV